



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Green

Attorney Docket No. 0219KR.43693

Serial No. 09/805,316

Examiner: Tucker, P.

Filed: March 13, 2001

Art Unit: 1712

For: Method for Injecting Dense Additive
Into Drilling Wells and Composition
Therefore

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SEP 3 - 2002

TC 1700

I, Ron Rose, state the following, of which I have personal knowledge:

1. I am the President of Grinding & Sizing Co., Inc. ("Grinding & Sizing"), and maintain an office at Grinding & Sizing Co., Inc., 515 Industrial Boulevard, P.O. Box 1808, Lufkin, Texas 75904. I have been employed by Grinding & Sizing since 1988 and have held the position of President since 1992. I am familiar with the disclosure in the above-identified patent application.
2. I have worked in the drilling fluid additive field for at least 27 years and am familiar with lost circulation and seepage control materials, both organic and inorganic.
3. I am not a named inventor of the subject application. I would be considered one of ordinary skill in the art of lost circulation and seepage control materials. Also, I supervise those who would be considered of ordinary skill in the art. Grinding & Sizing is the assignee of such invention.
4. I have studied literature; attended seminars, drilling fluid classes and trade shows regarding the lost circulation and seepage control materials; sold millions of tons of such material to drilling fluid companies and oil service companies; consulted with experts in the field; and supervised numerous individuals, both employees of Grinding & Sizing and employees of customers, in relation to such materials. I have worked with drilling fluid companies in developing unique additives for individual applications. I am extremely familiar with terms in the industry and the understanding associated with those terms throughout the industry.

5. To the best of my knowledge and belief, it is generally understood in the industry that lost circulation materials are chemically untreated, or raw, unless otherwise indicated. Chemically treating the lost circulation material may cause problems, such as incompatibility with drilling fluids. The materials are usually ground and mixed, and can also be heated. One of ordinary skill in the art would expect such materials to be chemically untreated, or raw, unless specified otherwise.

6. Improper lost circulation and seepage control materials can cause customers significant problems. If customers are unable to drill because of no or low mud return, the customers can lose large amounts of money. Blow outs can also occur, costing customers money due to the loss of capital investment, i.e., the equipment, and they also pose potential environmental and safety problems. Due to the high monetary costs and potential risks associated with lost circulation and seepage control materials, customers expect the materials to be chemically untreated, unless otherwise specified. If there is a chemical treatment, it must be disclosed to the customer since the losses can be so great.

7. One of ordinary skill in the art would understand that the disclosure of a ground material that was heated and pressed to form a pellet references a lost circulation and seepage control material that is chemically untreated.

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

3-20-02

Date



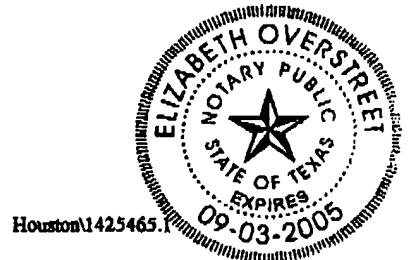
Ron Rose

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STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF Angelina

Before me personally appeared the above-identified individual and acknowledged the foregoing declaration to be his voluntary act and deed on the 20th day of August, 2002.



Elizabeth Overstreet
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas
My Commission Expires: 9-3-05

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